

## COFFEE DRINKING

In the United States is on the Increase.

## BEING SUBSTITUTED FOR TEA.

The Importation of the Berry Daring, Past Year Heaviest in History of the Country and the Leaf the Highest—Advantage of our new Porto Rican and Cuban Possessions. United States Largest Coffee Consuming Nation in the World.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—More coffee, and less tea, or a substitution of coffee for tea, seems to be the rule with the American people just now. The figures of the treasury bureau of statistics show that the coffee importation of the past year has been the heaviest in the history of the country, and the tea importation the lightest in many years. The importation of coffee in the calendar year 1897 was over 800,000,000 pounds, and the 1898 figures will be about the same as those of 1897. In no earlier year were the importations ever as much as 700,000,000 pounds. This is a larger amount of coffee for each individual than was ever before consumed in the country, the per capita consumption being about eleven pounds annually, while no earlier year showed a per capita consumption of as much as ten pounds. Reduced to tons, the total for the year 1898 would be 490,000 tons, requiring for its transportation 27,000 cars, which, if grouped in a single train, would nearly reach from New York to Baltimore. The United States is by far the largest coffee consuming country in the world, our own consumption being nearly double that of all Europe, and practically half of the coffee produced in the world. In only two countries—Holland and Denmark—is the per capita consumption larger than that of the United States, that of Holland being twenty-three pounds per capita and of Denmark fifteen pounds against eleven pounds per capita in the United States, five and a quarter pounds in Germany, three and a quarter pounds in France and less than one pound per capita in Great Britain.

These figures are especially interesting in view of the fact that coffee can be successfully grown in all of the islands which are just coming into closer relation with the United States. It is now the largest article of export from Porto Rico and the production there can be greatly increased since a very large proportion of the island is capable of producing coffee, which grows most successfully on the highlands and mountain sides. In parts of Cuba conditions are similar, and at one time the coffee production of that island amounted to nearly 100,000,000 pounds annually, though after the introduction of the sugar industry, it practically disappeared, sugar growing being more profitable. In Hawaii coffee is being successfully grown, and the area there can be materially increased; and the same is true of the Philippines.

One more important point regarding the business and of the coffee production problem as relates to those islands is found in the fact that the principal coffee producing countries of the world place an export tax of 12½ per cent on coffee leaving their ports, thus giving a decided advantage to those producing coffee in localities where no export tax is imposed.

An average of over \$30,000,000 a year has been sent out of the United States in the purchase of coffee since 1883, and while the amount in the last year is less than this average because of the exceedingly low price, the total is sufficient to indicate that a marked advantage to the country would result if this sum annually expended for coffee could be paid to its own citizens, either in person or represented by their capital if invested in this industry in those islands.

Tea importations, as already indicated, will be unusually light during the year just ending, and the withdrawal of tea from warehouse for actual consumption will be very much less than the actual importations. The total importations of tea for the calendar year will be about 65,000,000 pounds, while in past years they have ranged upwards of 90,000,000, those of the fiscal year 1897 being 113,000,000 pounds.

## Hacking Cough

A hacking cough is a grave-yard cough; the sooner you get rid of it the better. Don't wait until it develops into consumption, but use the celebrated Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup at once. It is a wonderful remedy for all throat and lung affections, and will cure a deep-seated cough or cold in a few days.

## Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup

Will cure a Hacking Cough. It is small and pleasant to take. Doctors recommend it. Price 25 cts. At all druggists.



## CHOATE STANDS A GOOD CHANCE.

The Famous New York Lawyer Is Now Almost Certain of Getting the English Ambassadorship.

Joseph Hodges Choate, one of the leaders of the bar of the United States, is a man upon whom the eyes of a great many Republicans are turned as the next ambassador to the court of St. James.

A politician of note and lawyer of rare ability he seems to the party leaders the most fitted for the important post.

Mr. Choate is over sixty years of age, but does not look it. He has the figure of a giant, with a slight stoop of the shoulders, which makes him look extremely studious. His pleasing manners and manly sincerity have made him lifelong friends among the men with whom his profession has brought him in contact, and his dealings with all parties have always been above suspicion. Mr. Choate's greatest charm, however, probably lies in the frankness

with which he expresses his opinion. This is one thing that has made him strongest where other men are weakest.

Here are some of the reasons given by his admirers why they want Mr. Choate selected for the ambassadorship to the court of St. James, gathered especially for this newspaper:

He has always preserved his faith in the most turbulent times of his party. He is wealthy, and has vast social influence.

His views have always been endorsed by time.

He is neither identified with corporate interests nor demagogic influences. He is in sympathy with all people. His character and discretion are unquestionable.

There are several other men under consideration with the same qualifications. Who will get the place?

## NEW INTERNATIONAL ISSUES.

The Most Disturbing Questions of the Immediate Future Relate to the Type of Civilization Which is to be Predominant in the Far East.

New York Journal of Commerce: There is nothing quite so significant of the progress of the world as the changing character of the international issues which carry with them the possibility of war. In the last fifty years the most fruitful cause of war has been the disturbance of the balance of power in Europe. For the next fifty it would seem as if the hostile rivalry of nations were to be waged around the balance of power in Asia. Without assuming that the boundaries of the civilized states of the world are finally settled, or even that the continued existence of all the states that come within the pale of civilization is permanently assured, it is evident that the most disturbing questions of the immediate future are to relate to the type of civilization which is to be predominant in the Far East.

The world has been pretty well parcelled out among the people who carry with them some kind of civilization, even if it be merely the possession of modern weapons of destruction. The process of division has gone on peacefully enough so far; virtually the whole of the African continent having been apportioned without provoking a European war. The recent imminence of conflict between France and England on the Nile has been accepted rather as an evidence of the unlikelihood of Africa ever proving the battleground of Europe than of the potency of its unsettled problems to provoke international strife. The time the dominion of the world depended on supremacy in North Africa passed when the Mediterranean ceased to be the chief highway of the commerce of the west. Broadly speaking there is no form of civilized government that can find lodgment on the African continent which is not an improvement on the kind of rule which it displaces, and there is no combination of places likely to be effected in Africa which carries with it any danger to mankind.

With Asia it is different. Here are assembled the greatest aggregates of humanity that the world knows; not for the most part barbarous, but representing merely a long stagnant or a retrograde type of civilization. Here is commercial opportunity on a scale that the Americas could not give, and here, too, is the potentiality of future supremacy among nations simply waiting the touch of organization and discipline to develop it. The application by an aggressive power of the European military system to the teeming millions of China would mean, sooner or later, the

subjection of all other powers to the one that was able to wield so formidable a weapon. Thus it is that, trade interests apart, the progressive nations of the world cannot afford to sit idly by and see China incorporated in a great military despotism. Nor would its division, as Africa has been divided, be a tolerable alternative. For that would mean not only the parceling out into more or less exclusive spheres of commercial influence of the only great undeveloped market of the world, but also the creation of immense armies, easily trained to the use of weapons of precision, for some future contest of unexampled magnitude and destructiveness. It has been aptly remarked that China is a world necessity and that civilization cannot afford that she should become a mere carcass round which the vultures of the world shall gather. But more than this, China is the key to the civilization that will prevail in the world's future; its possession would fix the course of the productive activity of mankind, no less than the limit of their expectations of an expanding reign of freedom. There was a turning point in the destiny of our race when the Greeks turned back the tide of Asiatic invasion; when Rome instead of Carthage gained the primacy of the west, and when the Cross triumphed over the Crescent. In the tremendous stake that is being played for in the Far East there is another of the great crises of history preparing before our eyes.

Future generations will count it the most momentous step in the history of the United States that brought us fairly within the sphere of Asiatic conflict. In the interest of commerce, of civilization and of mankind we have not come in a moment too soon. Every day brings new proofs of that fact, now that the full significance of their role in the world's future is dawning on the American people. Russia is nearer the heart of China by twelve hundred miles than she was a year ago, and if she meets as little opposition as she has done so far, another year will see her in Pekin, and the next in the Yangtze Valley. Foreign merchants at Newchwang are already asking themselves what Russia would allow them to do, and how much they would get out of their property when Russia owns Manchuria. The same story will come from Tientsin and Chefoo if Russia is left with a free hand in North China, and American commerce there, which constitutes three-fourths of all our commerce with the Empire, will shrink and disappear as it has done under a regime akin to that of Russia's in Madagascar. It was but the other day Great Britain found, when some of its citizens wanted to advance the money to build the railroad from Shanhaikwan to Newchwang, that there was a power stronger than itself in North China, and at this moment the security that was to have been allowed to the British investor on this portion of the Chinese Imperial railway system does not exist. The United States encountered a similar obstacle when a concession in which some of its citizens were interested was vetoed by Germany because it passed through a portion of Shanhaikwan. The pretensions which France is setting up for exclusive territorial rights at Shanghai, where her share of the trade is as small as Russia's in that part of North China, represent another of the straws that show the direction of the policy which the nations of Continental Europe would, if left to themselves, press to its logical outcome. As has been justly remarked, the idea that the door is kept open in China because there are no hostile tariffs or preferential rates is absolutely incorrect. The door can be firmly closed by the interference of one country with the commercial enterprises of another, and this is the kind of elusive condition which British and American diplomacy have to face in China. It is obviously a condition about which at no distant time the government and people of the United States must speak with decision. It is the policy of weak acquiescence which is most likely to lead to war; it is a clear and resolute announcement of what we conceive to be our rights in China that will be found best calculated not only to secure respect for them, but to insure the continuance of peace.

Merriam for Russian Mission. NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—A special from Washington says: Former Governor Merriam, of Minnesota, is said to be slated to succeed Secretary Hitchcock as ambassador to Russia. Mr. Merriam's friends assert with every indication of assurance that the incident is closed between the President and the former governor, and his name is expected to go to the senate soon after the holidays. Mr. Merriam is now in Washington, and has had several interviews with the President, but he declines to affirm or deny the report. Those familiar with Minnesota politics are aware that the President has more than a passing friendly regard for Mr. Merriam, and had he to consult only his personal desires a place in the cabinet would have been bestowed upon the former governor. He was also favorably mentioned in the early stages of the present administration in connection with various diplomatic missions abroad, from ambassador to the court of St. James down to consul general in Cuba.

DECKER UPRIGHT PIANO For Sale at a Great Bargain. A gentleman in the city who has a very fine Decker Upright Piano, is very much in need of ready cash. He will either sell the piano at a great sacrifice, or he will rent it for one or two years at a very low figure to any one who can pay the rent for that period in advance. The piano, as you know, is one of the standard pianos of the world, with all the modern improvements, and in perfect condition. This is a rare chance to buy or rent a piano very cheap. The instrument can be seen at our store, and further particulars concerning it will be cheerfully given. F. W. BAUMER CO.

Beats the Klondike. Mr. A. C. Thomas, of Marysville, Tex., has found a more valuable discovery than has yet been made in the Klondike. For years he suffered untold agony from consumption, accompanied by hemorrhages, and was absolutely cured by Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Coughs and Colds. He declares that gold is of little value in comparison with this marvelous cure; would have it, even if it cost a hundred dollars a bottle. Asthma, Bronchitis and all throat and lung affections are positively cured by Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption. Trial bottles free at Logan Drug Co.'s Drug Store. Regular size 50 cents and \$1.00. Guaranteed to cure or price refunded.

BEFORE USING. Can be grown on heads which are as bald as the one shown here on left side, as that is one of myself, showing how bald I have been for nine years, and now have a full and complete head of hair, as you can see by the cut on the right side. Of course, the head must not be shiny bald. This can be done without hair on the right.

DOES YOUR HEAD ITCH? If so, this germ is lurking in your scalp; the one you see here is fifty-five thousand times its natural size, but this is just as it looks under a microscope; they can be found in most scalp where the hair is coming out. Prof. Birkholz has found as many as 300 in one scalp; they destroy the hair, and will only breed where dandruff exists or the head is kept warm by hat wear. Ladies have them also, but the head is not so warm. Prof. Birkholz will give a free microscopical examination of the scalp and hair to ladies and gentlemen and will tell you as to whether or not your hair can be made to grow. Ladies will be attended by a Lady Specialist. The remedy is sold and dispensed scalp treated at the office.

For information call or write to PROF. BIRKHOE, 527 Race Street, bet. Fifth & Sixth Streets, (Room 10), Cincinnati, Ohio. For Sale by C. R. GORTER, Druggist.



## THE NEW DYNAMITE GUN.

General Miles is enthusiastic over a new gun recently tested at Fort Hancock, on the government testing grounds, by himself and the board of ordnance. The gun, which is the second dynamite one added to the navy, is very destructive, and throws projectiles a long distance. At the test it ripped up the beach after a way that was terrible to witness. If this great gun continues under other tests to meet the requirements it will be purchased in great numbers for the use of the army.

Sold Dust. Sold Dust.

## GOLD DUST THE BEST WASHING POWDER

Castoria. Castoria.

**CASTORIA**  
For Infants and Children.  
The Kind You Have Always Bought  
Bears the Signature of  
*Dr. J. C. Hutchins*  
In Use For Over Thirty Years  
**CASTORIA**  
THE CENTAUR COMPANY, NEW YORK CITY.

**900 DROPS**

Vegetable Preparation for Assimilating the Food and Regulating the Stomachs and Bowels of

**INFANTS CHILDREN**

Promotes Digestion, Cheerfulness and Rest. Contains neither Opium, Morphine nor Mineral. NOT NARCOTIC.

Recipe of OLD DR. J. C. HUTCHINS

Pumpkin Seed -  
Sulphate of Soda -  
Sulphate of Iron -  
Sulphate of Magnesia -  
Sulphate of Potash -  
Sulphate of Lime -  
Sulphate of Soda -  
Sulphate of Iron -  
Sulphate of Magnesia -  
Sulphate of Potash -  
Sulphate of Lime -

A perfect Remedy for Constipation, Sour Stomach, Diarrhoea, Worms, Convulsions, Feverishness and Loss of Sleep.

Facsimile Signature of  
*Dr. J. C. Hutchins*  
NEW YORK.

At 6 months old  
35 DROPS - 35 CENTS

EXACT COPY OF WRAPPER.

"HE THAT WORKS EASILY, WORKS SUCCESSFULLY." CLEAN HOUSE WITH  
**SAPOLIO**

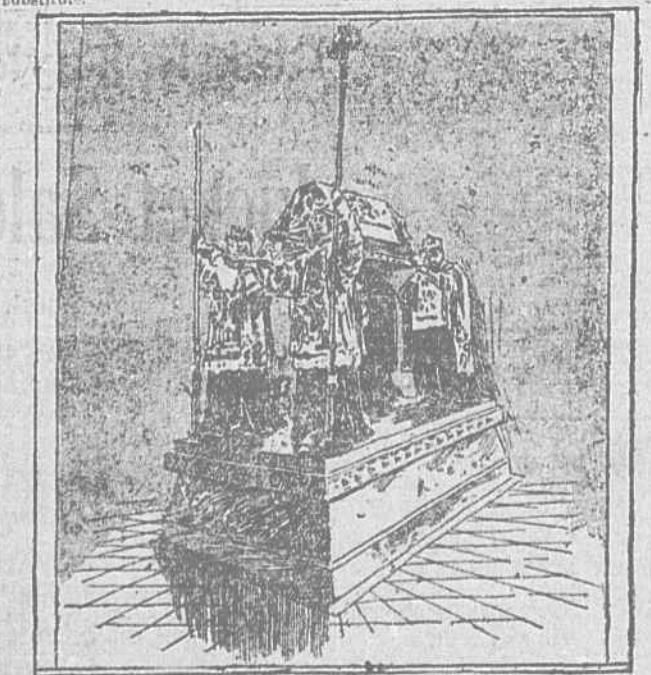
**HAIR**

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## A TOMB ON THE OCEAN.

The ashes of Columbus will shortly arrive at Madrid. They are now on the Spanish cruiser Conde de Venadito, which, with two gunboats as guards, sailed for Cadix the middle of December. There has been a great deal of dispute about the keeping of these remains, but General Wood decided that, being church property, they belonged to Spain. They will be received with all solemnity,